

Message Text

SECRET

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EXDIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PBOR, PGOV, US, JO, XF
SUBJECT: JORDANIAN EXPECTATIONS FOR SECRETARY'S TRIP

1. I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO SET DOWN BRIEFLY
A FEW OF THE EXPECTATIONS FOR YOUR TRIP HARBORED
BY KING HUSSEIN AND HIS SENIOR ADVISORS.

2. PRINCIPAL HOPE IS THAT YOU WILL HAVE SOMETHING
TO SAY ON THE U.S. SUBSTANTIVE POSITION ON A
GENERAL PEACE SETTLEMENT. FOR THREE YEARS THEY
HAVE BEEN WAITING TO BE TOLD WHAT THE U.S. WANTS
AND WILL SUPPORT. PRESIDENT CARTER'S PUBLIC STATE-
MENTS HAVE CARRIED US A LONG WAY FORWARD AND THEY
WILL WANT TO TALK WITH YOU ABOUT THEM AND HEAR
FROM YOU AN OVERVIEW OF OUR POSITION AND ESPECIALLY
THE SORT OF COMMITMENT WE ARE PREPARED TO MAKE TO
ACHIEVE IT. ARAB ANTENNAS WILL BE FINE TUNED
TO WHAT WE SAY IN THIS AREA. THEIR EXPECTATIONS
HAVE BEEN PEAKED BY RECENT MESSAGE INDICATING
OUR HOPE TO PRODUCE A STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES.
THEY WILL WANT TO KNOW WHETHER THIS IS TO BE A
U.S. DOCUMENT OR SOMETHING TO BE AGREED UPON AMONG
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 AMMAN 04203 261447Z

THE PARTIES.

3. JORDAN'S ROLE AND HOW WE SEE IT IS OF BASIC
CONCERN. JORDANIANS BELIEVE SOME RESOLUTION MUST
BE MADE OF THE ISSUE OF PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION.
(WE ARE SENDING IN SEPARATELY BY CABLE AN ANALYSIS AND
CONCLUSIONS ON THIS POINT AS IT TOUCHES ON JORDA.).

THEY HOPE TO HAVE FROM US NOT ONLY PROCEDURAL SUGGESTIONS, BUT AN OUTLINE OF OUR ULTIMATE OBJECTIVES IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. COURT CHIEF SHARAF HAS PUT HEAVY STRESS ON THIS POINT. THEY WILL BE PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE TO ANY INDICATION OF A TILT TOWARD STEP-BY-STEP APPROACHES ON OUR PART OR TO ANYTHING WHICH SMACKS OF EGYPT-FIRST, INCLUDING THE OBVERSE OF THAT APPROACH-- "WEST BANK LAST." THE LATTER, IN ADDITION TO LOOKING LIKE "EGYPT FIRST," WILL RAISE FEARS HERE OF "WEST BANK NEVER" AND REINVIGORATE ALL THE PAST DISAPPOINTMENTS WHICH THEY EXPERIENCED IN 1974 ON THIS SCORE.

4. KING HAS SAID GENEVA MUST BE WELL PREPARED. HE MEANS THAT SUBSTANTIVE GOALS MUST BE STATED AND UNDERSTOOD (EVEN IF NOT FULLY AGREED UPON) BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE ARABS. FOR HUSSEIN IT IS CLEAR HE CAN ACCEPT ANY AMOUNT OF U.S. PRESSURE ON THE ELEMENTS OF A FULL PEACE AND WILL HELP WITH THE OTHER ARABS TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO BE POSITIVE. MAJOR U.S. RESERVATIONS ON TERRITORY WILL BE HARD TO SWALLOW, ESPECIALLY ANY RETREAT FROM THE "1967 BORDERS WITH MINOR RECTIFICATION" POSITION. PROCEDURALLY TOO, KING UNDERSTANDS THERE ARE MANY UNANSWERED ISSUES BEFORE GETTING TO GENEVA. HE THINKS THE ARABS HAVE NOT DONE ENOUGH WORK
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 AMMAN 04203 261447Z

TOGETHER ON SUBSTANCE AND PROCEDURE FOR GENEVA AND WILL WANT TO HAVE ANY IDEAS OR THOUGHTS WE HAVE. PARTICULARLY ON PROCEDURE, THE ARABS' PREPARATIONS HAVE BEEN WEAK AND KING KNOWS IT AND WILL LOOK TO US (AND THE OTHER GENEVA CO-CHAIRMAN) TO TAKE THE LEAD.

5. BILATERAL POINTS HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED EARLIER. PRINCIPAL ISSUE WILL BE FUNDING FOR POTASH AND MAQARIN PROJECTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1979.

6. SEPTTEL PROVIDES SUMMARY OF POINTS IN UPI INTERVIEW WITH HUSSEIN PUBLISHED TODAY. IT IS AN FAIR RESUME OF HIS PUBLIC POSITION ON MANY POINTS AND DOES NOT DIFFER IN ANY MAJOR RESPECT FROM HIS VIEWS GIVEN TO US IN PRIVATE OVER RECENT MONTHS.
PICKERING

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